

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 233087

64

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 PM-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 MC-02 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01

IGA-02 AID-05 /074 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - RASMITH:MFG

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PM - MR. ERICSON

PM/SAS - CAPT. NOTARGIACOMO

DOD/ISA - MR. ABRAMOWITZ

EA - MR. MILLER

EA/TB - MR. HELBLE

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O R 202214Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

INFO CSA

CSAF

JCS

CINCPAC

SECDEF

CJUSMAG BANGKOK

S E C R E T STATE 233087

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MMOL, MILI, PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: US RESIDUAL ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND - AIT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 233087

REF: A. BANGKOK 26029; B. STATE 197309; C. STATE 081254

1. WE APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S STATUS REPORT ON THE AIT NEGOTIATIONS AND THE HARD BARGAINING THAT IS CONTINUING IN BANGKOK. WE SHARE WITH THE MISSION THE CONCERN THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE AT A DELICATE STAGE AND THAT THEIR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON FUTURE U.S.-THAI RELATIONS.

2. WE ARE, THEREFORE, CONCERNED THAT THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE IN PARA 4 REF A DOES NOT ADDRESS OUR MINIMUM REQUIREMENT AS STATED IN REF B, PARA 2. SIMPLE RTG AGREEMENT TO COMPLETE THE AIT PURCHASE WITHIN THREE YEARS, WITHOUT A SPECIFIC PURCHASING SCHEDULE AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, WOULD NOT OFFER SUFFICIENT GUARANTEE THAT THE THAI WOULD NOT REASSESS THEIR AMMUNITION REQUIREMENTS THREE YEARS HENCE AND, IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES, DECIDE THAT THEY WISHED TO PURCHASE LITTLE OR NONE OF THE AIT. THAI ACCEPTANCE OF A PAYMENT SCHEDULE IS REQUIRED SO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE INTENTION OF ALLOWING THAI USE OF NON-EXCESS DOD MATERIAL AT NO COST

THERE IS, MOREOVER, NO ACCEPTABLE LEGAL BASIS TO LEAVE THE AIT IN COUNTRY WITHOUT A FIRM THAI COMMITMENT TO PURCHASE IT. WE ALREADY HAVE SEVERAL OFFICIAL INQUIRIES CONCERNING AIT, THE MOST RECENT BEING THE GAO. OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION REMAINS AS SPECIFIED IN THE DRAFT MOA CONTAINED IN REF B.

3. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE THAI MIGHT FIND THE FIRST YEAR PURCHASE OF 25 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL BUDGETARILY DIFFICULT. IT WAS THIS UNDERSTANDING THAT PROMPTED US TO AUTHORIZE NEGOTIATION OF AN INITIAL PURCHASE OF LESS THAN 25 PERCENT, AS PER PARA 2 REF B.

4. ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY IN THE MODALITIES FOR THAI AIT PURCHASES COULD BE FOUND IN THE THAI SECURITY ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION. AS STATED IN REF C, WE COULD AGREE TO HAVING THE THAI BUY THE AIT WITH EITHER CASH OR BY USE OF THEIR FMS FINANCING. PART OF 36.7 MILLION DOLLARS IN FY 76/TQ

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 233087

GUARANTEED FFB LOANS WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO THEM IF THE THAI CONSUMMATED THE LOAN AGREEMENT BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 30 DEADLINE. THE USE OF FMS FINANCING WOULD, IN EFFECT, ALLOW THE THAI TO PAY FOR THE FIRST TRANCHE OF AIT OVER SEVEN YEARS.

5. WE NEED A REALISTIC PROPOSAL FROM THE THAI VERY SOON. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD URGENTLY APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S

COMMENTS ON PARAS 3 AND 4 ABOVE AS THEY MIGHT BEAR ON  
THE SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF THE AIT NEGOTIATIONS.

6. COMMENTS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF REF A TO FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MILITARY PLANS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ullricre  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE233087  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RASMITH:MFG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760355-0489  
**From:** STATE JOINT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 121  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BANGKOK 26029, 76 STATE 197309, 76 STATE 81254  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ullricre  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by ullricre>; APPROVED <15 OCT 2004 by ullricre>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US RESIDUAL ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND - AIT SECRET SECRET  
**TAGS:** MMOL, MILI, PFOR, MASS, TH, US  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006